

MATH APPLICATION ACTIVITY: CALCULATING GLOBAL CO₂ EMISSIONS



OBJECTIVE: Students will:

- ✚ Calculate the per capita heating value contributed by the global community;
- ✚ Illustrate the data in several different formats.

MATERIALS:

- ✚ **Student Sheets**
- ✚ Paper/pencil/Colored pencil/markers
- ✚ Ruler
- ✚ Calculator
- ✚ Graph paper
- ✚ Access to computer

PROCEDURE:

1. Read and discuss the **INTRODUCTION** and the **DATA TABLE** with the class.
 - ✚ Be sure students understand the difference between **total emissions** and **per capita**.
2. Direct students to calculate the per capita contributions for each country using the formula below:

Total carbon emissions / Total population = Per capita emissions

$$55,194 \div 28.58 = 1.931$$

Note: Students need to move the decimal point 3 places to the left in the final answer.

3. Students should record their answers on the **DATA TABLE**.
4. Direct students to create a bar graph (and write a title) of the top 15 countries with the highest per capita CO₂ emission for 2015.
 - ✚ Y axis: Metric tons of CO₂ per capita

- ✚ X-axis: country
- ✚ Y-axis notations should proceed from 0 at the bottom to 30 at the top.
- ✚ Use a different color for each country.

5. Students should then answer the questions in the **ANALYSIS /COMPREHENSION** section.

